

Bathhouse Row, Hale Bathhouse  
Central Avenue  
Hot Springs National Park  
Hot Springs  
Garland County  
Arkansas

HABS No. AR-28-B

HABS  
ARK,  
26-HOSP,  
1B-

PHOTOGRAPHS

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

ADDENDUM  
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE ARKANSAS	COUNTY GARLAND	TOWN OR VICINITY HOT SPRINGS
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) BATHHOUSE ROW AND THE GRAND PROMENADE		HABS NO. AR-28
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE See below, SIGNIFICANCE, for names of individual Bathhouses		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Bathhouse Row and the Grand Promenade are located east of Central Avenue, between Reserve and Fountain Streets. The Promenade is behind (east of) Bathhouse Row.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Ca. 1911-1935. (National Register File)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) See individual Bathhouses, AR-28A- AR-28-I	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Bathhouse Row comprises one of the few remaining examples of the picturesque health spas of the early twentieth century. (The following description is from the statement of significance, National Register File)  "The present bathhouses ... are the second, and in some cases, third or fourth generation of bathing facilities in this location. The first bathhouse was believed to have been built about 1830. Prior to that time the indigenous Indian cultures had long made use of the springs.  The present Bathhouse Row buildings date from about 1911 to 1935, with some later remodelings. Some are in a classic revival or Edwardian Style which began with the World's Fair of 1893 in Chicago. Most are in a style which California and Hollywood made popular in the early days of this century, called Spanish Revival. (Spanish Revival is sometimes jokingly referred to as the Cecil B. DeMille Style of Architecture.) This style is characterized by exterior stucco, natural finish wood, and tile roofs.  The eight bathhouses include the Superior, Hale, Maurice, Fordyce, Quapaw (Health Services, Inc.), Ozark, Buckstaff, and Lamar. The National Park Service Visitor Center is the latest building constructed along Bathhouse Row, and the only structure not facing Central Avenue. Built in 1938, it is in a style harmonious with the architecture of the bathhouses.  The bathing industry prospered throughout the first half of this century because the waters were considered to be the cure for various ailments. Hot Springs and Bathhouse Row became a regional center for many sorts of therapy as well as an entertainment center. The buildings saw their peak of operations in 1946. Following World War II, "(m)odern drugs began to supplant the importance of the therapeutic waters, however, and the bathing industry began a steady decline. ..." National Park status has been important to the preservation of Hot Springs Bathhouse Row.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE A partial bibliography is appended to this form.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form, Bathhouse Row, Hot Springs, Garland County, Arkansas		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Marion K Schlefer, Historic American Buildings Survey, Washington, DC		DATE March 1986

Partial and Incomplete Bibliography  
Including Citations from the National Park Service  
Cultural Resources Management Bibliography and other  
sources

- Benson, Forrest M., and Donald S. Libbey. History of Hot Springs National Park. Washington, National Park Service [1955] 52p. (Includes bibliography)
- Cromwell, Neyland, Truemper, Millett & Gatchell, Inc. Historic Structures Report: Hot Springs National Park. Little Rock, Arkansas. By the Authors [1973]. 160p. (Includes photographs and measured drawings)
- Kemper, C. Dunbar and Hunter Expedition (1804). National Park Service [1936] 2p.
- Maeder, Richard H. Steeped in Hot Water: The Establishment and History of Hot Springs National Park. National Park Service. [ ] 15p.
- Pitts and Associates Engineers. Investigative Study of Five Bathhouses, Phase II, Hot Springs National Park. National Park Service [1984] 250p. (Includes photographs tables and measured drawings)
- Engineering Study of the Quapaw Bathhouse, Phase III, Hot Springs National Park. National Park Service [1984] 65p. (Includes photographs, measured drawings, and tables)
- Scully, Francis J. Hot Springs, Arkansas, and Hot Springs National Park: The Story of a city and the Nation's Health Resort. Little Rock, Arkansas, Pioneer Press [1966] 440p. (Includes bibliography)
- U.S. Interior Department. National Park Service, National Register. National Register Files of Historic Places. Arkansas, Garland County, Hot Springs. Bathhouse Row. [Entered 1974]
- National Register Files of Historic Places. Arkansas, Garland County, Hot Springs. Central Avenue Historic District. [Entered 1985] (Contains information on the commerical district on the west side of Central Avenue, across Central from Bathhouse Row)
- National Park Service Staff. Hot Springs National Park, Collection and Preservation Guide. Washington, National Park Service [1980] 66p. (Includes measured drawings, HABS/HAER Drawings)
- National Park Service Staff. General Management Plan, Development Concept Plan, Environmental Assessment: Hot Springs National Park. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 96p. (Includes measured drawings, maps, photographs, tables)
- National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program, The Bathhouse Row Landscape: Technical Report 1, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 102p. (Includes measured drawings, maps, photographs, tables)

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- U.S. Interior Department. National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program: The Superior Bathhouse, Technical Report 2, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 40p. (Includes HABS/HAER drawings, measured drawings, photographs)
- National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program: The Hale Bathhouse, Technical Report 3, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 35p. (Includes HABS/HAER drawings, measured drawings, photographs, tables)
- National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program: The Maurice Bathhouse, Technical Report 4, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 44p. (Includes HABS/HAER drawings, measured drawings, photographs, tables)
- National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program: The Fordyce Bathhouse, Technical Report 5, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 44p. (Includes HABS/HAER drawings, measured drawings, photographs, tables)
- National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program: The Quapaw Bathhouse, Technical Report 6, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 42p. (Includes HABS/HAER drawings, measured drawings, maps, tables)
- National Park Service Staff. Bathhouse Row Adaptive Use Program: The Ozark Bathhouse, Technical Report 7, Hot Springs. Washington, National Park Service [1985] 35p. (Includes HABS/HAER drawings, measured drawings, maps, tables)
- U.S. Works Project Administration, American Writers' Program. Arkansas: a guide to the State. New York, N.Y. Hastings House [1941] 447p.
- Wilson, Stiles, Witsell and Evans, P.A. Historical Data, Fordyce Bath House. [ ] 200p. (Includes primary sources, maps, HABS/HAER drawings)

ADDENDUM TO  
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Central Avenue  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013